



Sharing the Heart of Christ from the Heart of the City

Follow Me

LOVING GOD
LOVING EACH OTHER
LOVING THE WORLD

From the Pastor

October 2026 Newsletter

“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling” (Ephesians 4:4).

The programming year is in full force here at Central! September saw the resumption of our regular Sunday schedule, with Traditional Worship at 9am and Contemporary Worship at 11am, and the start of Sunday School in between. It’s been particularly wonderful for me to start worshipping with the group that gathers for the second service, as we share energetic music that stirs the heart and walk through the teachings of Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians. The Letter to the Ephesians can be considered a primer on Christian community – Church 101, we might say—and we have been listening to its reminder that we are all part of God’s cosmic plan to reconcile us to God and one another through the grace of Jesus Christ.

September also featured the Installation Service, Carlisle Presbytery’s formal endorsement of the ministry we have begun together. I am extremely grateful for all of the talent and time that went into that service and reception on September 20. Thank you, friends! It was good to be reminded of our connection to the larger Church, and to have a chance to show off some of the good things happening in our congregation! Besides the service itself, the weekend was full of ministry, as we also offered two Sunday morning services and hosted Diaper Depot and a Community Meal. What a full weekend of being church together!

Togetherness in Christ is one of my biggest priorities this first year as your pastor. I am thoroughly enjoying getting to know all of you more deeply, sharing in the many ways we come together as church. I want to emphasize the importance of us being a community in worship, learning, and service. Toward that end, October 4 will begin our habit of worshiping together, in a single service at 9am, each first Sunday of the month. I have been referring to these Sundays as “One Church,” a chance for us to reaffirm that we are a single community of faith, even though we worship at different hours and in different styles the other Sundays of the month.

In our “One Church” services, we will gather around the Lord’s Table, celebrating the reality of Ephesians 4:4, that we are one body, bound in the Spirit with each other, the larger church, and Christians of every time and place. October 4 happens to be World Communion Sunday, when we will commemorate the unity and diversity in the global Body of Christ by featuring words and songs from different cultures and languages. After worship, we will have the chance to study together, including an intergenerational class that brings our youth and adults into conversation around our theme for the year: “Follow Me.” Please be sure to join us for this special morning.

There are many other things happening at Central in October: pumpkins picked and painted, blood drives hosted, people served, and a variety of educational opportunities for you to join. I hope you will find new ways to participate in the worship, learning, and service here, and claim your place in the “one body” that is Central Presbyterian Church!



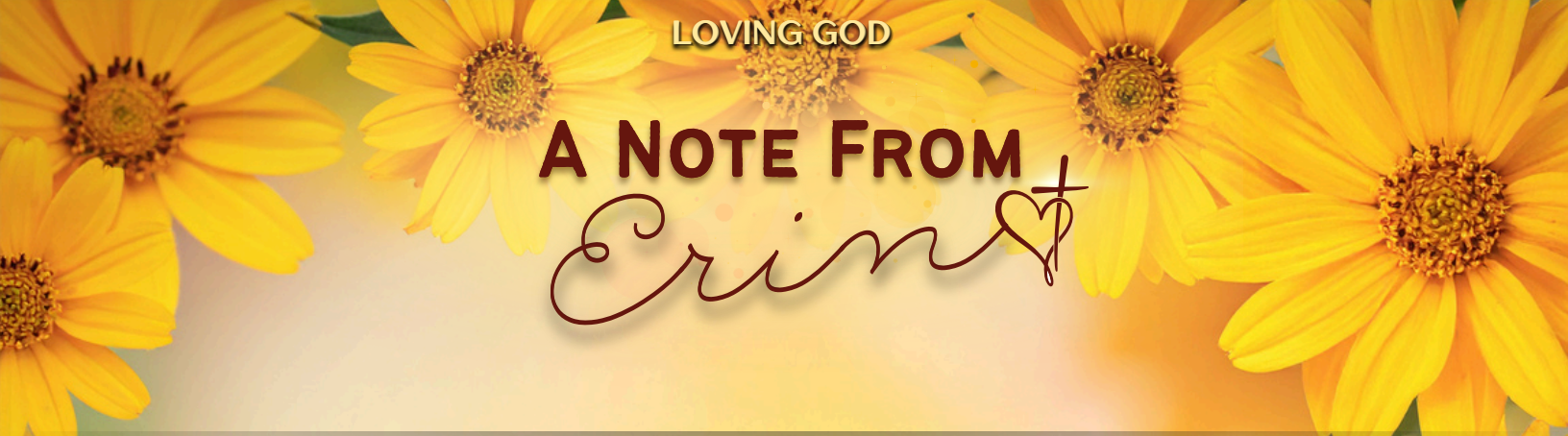
From the Pastor – Continued

Christianity and the Founding of the United States

Did the Founders intend for the United States to be a Christian nation? Where did the idea of “separation of church and state” come from, and does it mean that the US should be a country in which religion plays no public role? In this adult education class, we will look at the different views of “church and state” held by Founders of the US and try to determine their “original intent.” We’ll also learn about an old Presbyterian, John Witherspoon, and his contributions to those early debates. We’ll examine the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, particularly the First Amendment, asking what the history of these texts reveals about the Founders’ intentions, and we’ll spend some time discussing how the Supreme Court has interpreted the First Amendment on matters of religion. Finally, we’ll ask whether the movement called Christian Nationalism reflects the original vision of the Founders.



Four Sessions: Thursdays 10/29, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19; 7:00-8:15pm in the Parlor.



LOVING GOD

A NOTE FROM *Erin*♥

James mentioned something in one of our September worship services that hit me profoundly: **we are to live in grateful response to what God has done for the sake of God's glory.**

When I have considered gratitude in the past, it's almost always been about what I have: general good health, an amazing family and friends, a loving support system, delicious food to eat and clean water to drink, etc. But when I think on living in grateful response, I think less about myself and more about everyone and everything outside of myself. It's about how I show gratitude, not just feel it. It's about how I act in accordance with being grateful.

I wonder what would change if my attitude always emanated "grateful for what God has done". Would it be infectious? Would others start to wonder the cause? Would my relationships deepen? Would I become a better listener? Would my health improve?

In grateful response... sounds like a healthy challenge to take on this month. Want to join me?



LOVING GOD

WORSHIP UPDATES

We are a month into the program year and it has been so beautiful to see our Church family grow deeply into the love of Christ! Thanks be to God for Sunday morning worship services, choir rehearsals, praise band rehearsals, Rally Day, the community meal, James' installation service, and more!

Interested in joining any of our worship teams? Email Erin at erinatcpc@gmail.com

Reminder:

World Wide Communion will be Sunday October 4th! We will celebrate communion together as One Church at 9am in the sanctuary. You can expect a service that's a little familiar for everyone and a little different too! Don't forget to stick around for intergenerational Sunday School at 10am and fellowship too!



From the Organ Bench

As I write this article I am still thinking about the wonderful weekend recently with a full line of all sorts of activities at our church, from the Diaper Depot and the Community Meal to the Installation Service for James. At the Ministry Fair recently there was an opportunity to check out what is happening at Central and how each person could become involved.

Romans 12:6-8 talks about the different gifts we all have and about using those gifts. At The Rev. Dr. James Calvin Davis' Installation service a lot of "gifts" were used. Many speakers shared words of wisdom, a lot of planning was done to make everything go smoothly, musical talents were used in many different ways by many different people including the congregation and choir singing. At the reception after the service, again many talents were obvious with the delicious food, the attractive set-up, etc. as well as people fellowshiping and welcoming everyone.

However, the most outstanding part to me was how everyone worked together to make all this happen. That "Christian fellowship" is certainly something very valuable and special. We cannot do "life" on our own. We need each other. We need a good leader (which we just officially got in "James") and we all need the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

As we go forward with James as our "Official leader and pastor" it is my prayer that we all can work together, using our gifts and talents "to the glory of GOD" to help each other at church and in the community and the world.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!!

Helen Wingert, Organist



LOVING GOD

Prayer Action Team

OCTOBER PRAYER FOCUS & VERSE OF THE MONTH:

**“Because of the LORD’s great love, we are not consumed,
for His compassions never fail.
They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.”
Lamentations 3:22-24**

This month our memory verses help us to focus on the amazing grace and compassion of our Heavenly Father. If we are honest with ourselves, we recognize that we fail Him often. Our attitudes are not always holy, our actions can be self-centered, and our words can be mean-spirited. If God were to treat us the way we deserved, we would constantly be in hiding from Him.

AND YET..... Look closer at the words of this month’s passage from Lamentations!!!! What encouragement and peace these words give to us!!!

- **“Because of the LORD’s great love, we are not consumed”....**
Meaning? **great love** = immense, matchless, beyond comprehension
 not consumed = picture of His mercy and grace
- **“His compassions never fail”....**
Meaning? consistent, forever true, always for us
- **“They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness”....**
Meaning? God doesn’t hold grudges. Confessed sin is forgiven sin,
 so we can start each day with a clean slate.

(see also 1 John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”)

Find peace and comfort in the truths in these verses!

Take time each day to confess any sin in your life.

Rejoice in God’s grace, forgiveness and faithfulness.

Our God is an awesome God and He loves you more than you can imagine.



LOVING GOD. LOVING EACH OTHER. LOVING THE WORLD.

Erin is looking for photography and videography help for our social media and website projects! If you are interested, please email her at erinatcpc@gmail.com.

ATTENTION:

Erin's email address for Central is now erinatcpc@gmail.com. Our staff is trying to get away from using our personal email addresses for church dealings, so please make the change for us. Thank you!

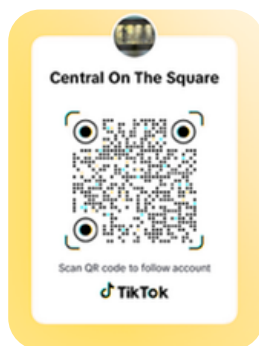
Check out the wall calendar in our main lobby! To view our church calendar, touch the TV with slides. You will see all that we have coming up!

Have you visited our website? Go to www.centralonthesquare.org and explore what Central has to offer!

Are you following us on Facebook? Instagram? TikTok? If not, we'd love for you to start!

Facebook: facebook.com/centralonthesquare

Instagram: instagram.com/centralonthe2



TikTok:

Are you signed up for our church-wide emails? [Use this link to sign up!](#)

FITNESS MINISTRY!

Calling all who desire healthy bodies, minds, and spirits - All fitness classes are FREE and open to the public! They start at 9:15 and end at 10am.



MON

TUES

WED

THUR

9:15am-10:00am

9:15am-10:00am

9:15am-10:00am

9:15am-10:00am

lower body

upper body

walk & talk

lower body

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Chambersburg, PA 17201
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DIAPER DEPOT VOLUNTEER INFO & EVENT DATES:

Set up starts on Saturdays at 9:00am and the doors open at 10am. Everything will conclude when the leftover diapers are stored at around 12:30pm.

If you would like to volunteer to help pack diapers. We meet on the Wednesday before Diaper Depot in Friendship Hall at 1:00pm. All are welcome!

2026 Diaper Depot Dates:

10:00AM-12:00PM

- October 10th
- November 14th
- December 12th



It was a fantastic Diaper Depot Day on Saturday, September 19! We welcomed **170 families including 16 new people** and 3 expectant mothers (all due on Sept. 28!) Many community and ministry partners came together to make this month's Diaper Depot very special and full of blessings!

- Central's Mission Team hosted a Community Meal which was served at Diaper Depot and open to all members of our community. Guests were delighted by the delicious meal of barbeque chicken sandwiches, corn on the cob, applesauce, chips and cookies.
- Central's Children's Ministry and Mission Team participated in a gleaning event at the Oberholzer Farm in Shippensburg just 2 days before Diaper Depot. All of the watermelons that this mighty crew picked were given to our clients on Saturday.
- SCCAP once again donated an abundant supply of apples for every family to take home.
- Baby wipes and baby formula were also offered to all of our families in addition to their diapers.
- English and Spanish language Bibles were available for clients to take home.
- Baby clothing and other baby items were free to families, provided by the Franklin Families Communities Resources Network.
- Keystone Health and AmeriHealth both provided health and educational resources.

So many amazing and wonderful volunteers blessed our ministry this month. High school students and JROTC students from CASHS returned in full force! New volunteers recruited at Rally Day and old friends who have moved away were there! We also welcomed Pastor James and Elizabeth as they jumped right in to serve! And, of course, The Mission Team heading up the kitchen did a herculean job! Thank you to every person involved – this is the kingdom of God at work!

Save the Date!

Our next Diaper Depot will take place on **Saturday, October 10**. We hope to see you there!!

- **Set-up begins at 9:00 a.m.**
- **Doors open at 10:00 a.m.**
- **Doors close at 12 noon and clean up begins.**
- **Diaper packing will be held on Wednesday, October 7 at 1:00 p.m. in Friendship Hall.**

Diaper Depot is entirely self-funded through grants and donations from community organizations and businesses. If you are interested in supporting this ministry financially you may write a check payable to Central Presbyterian with Diaper Depot in the memo. If donating online, please make a note of Diaper Depot. Your support is gratefully received and appreciated. All funds are used to purchase diapers and breakfast ingredients.

Thank you for being part of the Diaper Depot family!



PLAYSCHOOL CENTRAL

OCTOBER EVENTS

Please pray for the students and teachers as we get back to our school routines this month!

- ✓ October 7 Pumpkin Patch Day
- ✓ October 12 - No School
- ✓ October 29 & 30 Trunk or Treat IN the parking Lot 9am

WE COULD USE YOUR HELP IF YOU CAN
PASS OUT CANDY FROM YOUR TRUNK FOR
TRUNK OR TREAT ON OCT 29 & 30TH!
CONTACT: MISS SHELLEY IF YOU ARE ABLE
TO HELP! EMAIL:

DIRECTOR@CENTRALONTHE SQUARE.ORG



October 2026

Central Presbyterian Youth Update



Trick or Treat on Main

On Halloween, we are going to participate in the Downtown Trick or Treat on Main event! We'll be decorating the church, dressing up, handing out candy, and organizing a few activities for the kids in our community. We usually have over 1,000 visitors, so we'll take any help with goodies to hand out or in volunteering!

Youth Sunday School

We're getting into the flow of the programming year with youth Sunday School. Remember, the first Sunday of every month is a combined Sunday School after the 9:00 service.

Thursday Night Youth

This month, our HS missions study will meet 10/1 and 10/15. That group is preparing for our trip next summer through the South to examine the connection between the church and the Civil Rights Movement. On 10/8, instead of Creative Arts, the youth will help the kids' ministry with pumpkin picking. On 10/22, we will do some pumpkin carving and decorating during our congregational meal.

Peer Tutoring

This is an awesome program that allows our youth to help others with their school work and literacy skills. For the past few years, we've helped local refugees learning English. This year, we will continue to grow the program to include more kids and increase our outreach! Our first session will be Monday, September 14 from 5:30-7:00.

Basketball Open Gym

We're getting ready to have our teams kick off their seasons in December. Any middle or high school boys interested in playing this season should reach out soon!

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25 (10:00-11:00)

BASKETBALL OPEN GYM: 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/29 (6:00-8:00)

PEER TUTORING: 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26 (5:30-7:00)

11SEVENTEEN CLASS (HS MISSIONS): 10/1, 10/15 (6:00-8:00)

PUMPKIN CARVING: 10/22 (6:00-7:30)

TRICK OR TREAT ON MAIN: 10/21 (9:00-1:00)

Loving One Another

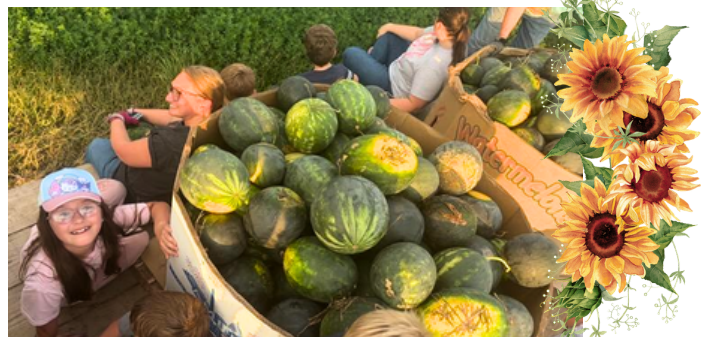


From: Bree Rauhut – Children's Ministry Director

As I watched the CPC kids pick watermelons for Diaper Depot this month, a thought occurred to me. God provided this farmer with a field and seed to grow food. God provided this farmer with enough of a crop to give a portion to our church. God provided the workers to glean the watermelons and the workers to run Diaper Depot. God provided for His people. It was a beautiful thing.

In Kids' Sunday School, our lesson for the month is God has the power to provide. In our Bible Adventure, the children followed the footsteps of the prophet Elijah into the wilderness so we could hide from King Ahab. There God provided water from a brook and food delivered by ravens. We talked about what God has provided for us. The kids named family, friends, pets, and pizza. God provides for our everyday needs. He provides forgiveness, hope, love, peace, and strength. And, yes, God provides pizza.

We may not see ravens dropping food from the sky, but God provides in small ways, big ways, and even unexpected ways. I stand in awe of a God who provides, so I leave you with this question. What has God provided for you?



FINANCE REPORT

Jesus' invitation to "Follow Me" calls us not only to walk in faith, but also to share the gifts God has entrusted to us. Through our time, talents, and financial support, each of us plays a part in the life and ministry of Central. Your faithful generosity helps us grow in faith, serve our neighbors, and continue Christ's work in our church and community.

	September 2026	Jan - Sep 2026
Donations (as of 9/25/26)	\$17,954.00	\$274,874.54
Trust Income	\$1,520.97	\$76,918.64
Total Income	\$19,474.97	\$351,793.18
Expenditures (as of 9/25/26)	\$23,124.78	\$425,039.74
Net Income/(Loss)	(\$3,649.81)	(\$73,246.56)

PARTNER WITH US

Giving Options

A quick and easy way to give a gift of support. Visit our website to give by credit/debit card or through a bank ACH transaction.



Text

Text the amount you would like to give to: (717) 347-0371



Online

Give once or set-up recurring giving at <https://centralpc.breezechms.com/give/online>



In Person

Donate in person at the church office.



By Mail

Mail to the church at 40 Lincoln Way West, Chambersburg, PA 17201.

If you have any questions:

Please contact Alexis Helman at accounting@centralonthesquare.org.



Food.Friends.Fellowship
Super Senior Luncheon

Super Seniors: Change of Scenery for Our October Luncheon!

Calling all Super Seniors! We're doing something a little different for our October gathering and taking the fellowship on the road. Please take note: We will NOT be meeting at the church or in Friendship Hall this month! We're letting you know well in advance so no one shows up at the church by mistake.

Instead, we'll be meeting over at Stoner's Family Restaurant for a relaxed afternoon. There's no formal program or speaker planned—just a fantastic opportunity to gather around the table, enjoy a great meal, and spend quality time catching up with long-time friends.

🕒 When: Tuesday, October 14th at 12:00 PM

📍 Where: Stoner's Family Restaurant (615 Wayne Ave, Chambersburg)

This will be a "Dutch Treat" — everyone will be expected to pay for their own food. Join us, as we enjoy a wonderful time of food, laughter, and community outside of church!

Please Don't Forget to RSVP to the Church office!

So that Stoner's can have the proper seating ready for our group, please let us know if you plan to attend by no later than Monday, October 12th. You may call into the church office or RSVP by email to Brooklyn, the church secretary. We look forward to sharing a lovely lunch with all of you!

📞 Phone: (717) 264-4113 ext. 100

✉ Email: BrooklynShearer@centralonthesquare.org.

CPC News

FOOD. FUN. FELLOWSHIP. FALL FESTIVITIES.

Save The Date!

October 22nd

In Friendship Hall. More details to come.

The deacons are beginning to collect donations for Central's annual Thanksgiving Food Basket Ministry. Your generous donations will support families in need throughout our community. Last year, our ministry reached over 126 families (583 adults and children), across 8 different community agencies. Labeled envelopes will be located in the pew card holders. Please place envelopes and donations in the offering baskets. The congregations' ongoing support for this ministry is greatly appreciated!



Are you willing to join Central's meal train?

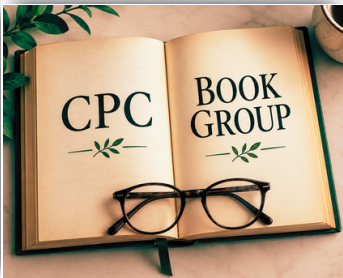
When a member of our church family needs a little assistance because they are recovering from surgery, they had a baby, they are grieving, members of our church family step up to provide meals.

When there is a need, all participants receive an email, you simply check your calendar and only sign up to take a meal if it suits your schedule. The email

will include details on the number of people, food likes and dislikes, delivery time, etc.

It is best to deliver meals in disposable containers so the recipient does not have to bother with returning dishes. Meals do NOT need to be homemade, you could simply run to the Butcher Shoppe or deliver a meal from a local restaurant.

If you are willing to occasionally provide a meal, please send an email to Cindy Happel at happecin@gmail.com so you can be added as a participant.



Did you know that Central has a book group that meets the second Thursday of almost every month from September until May? The group takes a break in the summer months.

The book group is casual, friendly, and open to members and non-members alike.

We meet at 2 p.m. in either the Parlor or Semper Fi Classroom located across from the Pastor's Office.

Below are the meeting dates and the books we will be discussing, join us for one or all of the discussions, we love to talk about books.

October 8 - The Wedding People by Alison Espach, moderated by Rachel (available in paperback July 28)

November 12 - Mr. Dickens and his Carol by Samantha Silva, a 'Christmas' book

January 14, 2027 - Isola by Allegra Goodman

February 11 - The Berry Pickers by Amanda Peters, moderated by Marcia

March 11 - A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith

April 8 - Heartwood by Amity Gaige

May 13 - One Step Forward by Marcie Flinchum Atkins

STAFF

DR. JAMES CALVIN DAVIS, PASTOR

ERIN ADAMS, WORSHIP & COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

BREE RAUHUT, KIDS' MINISTRY DIRECTOR

ROSS WINEGARDNER, YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR

HELEN WINGERT, ORGANIST

SHELLEY MARANGONI, PLAYSCHOOL CENTRAL DIRECTOR

ALEXIS HELMAN, CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

BROOKLYN SHEARER, CHURCH SECRETARY

SCOTT SHEARER, CUSTODIAN

HIREM STAHL, ASSOCIATE CUSTODIAN

The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.



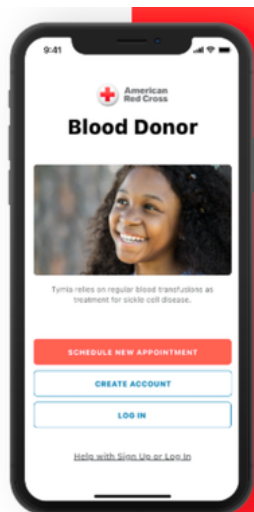
**American
Red Cross**



Central Presbyterian Church Red Cross Blood Drive

When: October 23rd at 11AM-4PM

Where: Central Presbyterian Church, 2nd floor



DOWNLOAD THE APP



**DOWNLOAD THE
RED CROSS APP**

We recommend that you sign up using the app, especially if you plan to become a regular. It makes scheduling much easier, and more importantly, it allows you to do most of the pre-donation questions ahead of time to speed up the donation process. **PLUS**, it tells you how many gallons of **blood** you've donated and where your donations end up going.

or

Alternatively, you may sign up directly on the Red cross website using this QR code

*Please make sure you select the correct Central Presbyterian Church!

For more information or help signing up please feel free to contact our church secretary at (717) 264-4113 or stop in the church office and Brooklyn can get you scheduled!



redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS